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State of Connecticut
SENATE
Twenty-seventh District

Chair
General Bonding Subcommittee
General Law Committee
Vice Chair
Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee
Transportation Committee

TESTIMONY OF STATE SENATOR CARLO LEONE ON SB 244: An Act Concerning the Reporting of Injuries Resulting from the Discharge of a Firearm and Stab Wounds

Senator Coleman, Representative Tong, and honorable members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is State Senator Carlo Leone and I am testifying today in support of SB 244: "An Act Concerning the Reporting of Injuries Resulting from the Discharge of a Firearm and Stab Wounds."

This bill would make the mandatory reporting of stab wounds the same as reporting a wound from a firearm. In some cases, an individual will seek medical treatment but law enforcement has not been made aware that there has been an incident resulting in a wound. The mandatory reporting of these wounds provides law enforcement with the ability to then investigate the incident that they may not have otherwise known about.

Secondly this bill clearly lays out the procedure for mandatory reporting and how to maintain evidence that may help law enforcement in their investigation so there is no question about how to report.

Lastly the language in this bill provides employees who are making a good faith effort to report the wound immunity from civil or criminal liability. This is important because there may be a fear associated with reporting a wound and any future ramifications, and the language here would prevent any of those ramifications. We want employees to report firearm and stab wounds and protecting them from any liability may make it easier for them to report.

Please help us pass SB 244. Thank you for your consideration.